INFORMATION LETTER

Not for Publication — NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION — For Members Only

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Relaxation or Elimination Of Tin Controls Discussed

Discussions regarding the continuance of Orders M-43 and M-81 took place in Washington last week at a meeting of the Tin Plate Industry Advisory Committee and U. S. Department of Commerce officials.

It was decided that these orders should be looked into carefully with a view to further relaxation or possible elimination in the near future because of the improved tin and tin plate situation.

The Advisory Committee pointed out the continued easing in the supply situation and indicated that little difficulty is anticipated in providing adequate overseas requirements.

The meeting was presided over by Frank T. McCue, chief of the Iron and Steel Division, Office of Domestic Commerce.

Because of the improved supply situation, it was considered desirable to discontinue export priority ratings that had formerly been granted since the inception of the controls, and likewise to discontinue the issuance of quarterly export space tonnage reservations on the mills.

Delivered Pricing

The Senate is scheduled to vote next week on a motion which may decide whether or not legislation intended to clarify existing confusion on delivered price selling, freight absorption and the good faith meeting of competition will be enacted during this session of Congress.

The O'Mahoney bill, S. 1008, designed to permanently legalize these pricing practices, was amended and passed by the Senate on June 1, and was amended further and passed by by the House on July 7. The Senate voted on July 26 to disagree to the House amendments and to send the measure to conference, where proponents of the O'Mahoney bill might try to eliminate amendments considered objectionable.

However, Senator Long (La.) moved that the Senate reconsider the vote by which the bill was sent to confer-

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Wage-Hour Action May Cut Overtime Exemptions

In preparation for House debate next week on proposals to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act, Chairman Lesinski of the House Labor Committee this week offered a compromise bill which would extend wage-hour coverage—but not as broadly as H. R. 3190 reported by his committee last March.

Drafted by a group of Administration Democrats and reportedly having the support of Administration Democrats on the House Labor Committee, the new "compromise" was introduced on August 2 as H. R. 5856. It is one of three wage-hour bills to be placed before the House when it begins wage-hour consideration, now scheduled August 8:

(1) H. R. 5856 would reduce canning industry exemptions from overtime to a maximum of 20 weeks at 12 hours a day or 56 hours a week for perishable fruits and vegetables and to 14 weeks of 12 hours a day or 56 hours a week for fish and seafoods; would retain the total exemption from both wages and hours for the "area of production"; and would raise the minimum wage to 75 cents.

(2) H. R. 3190 would reduce the industry's exemptions to a maximum of 20 weeks for fruit and vegetable canners and to 14 weeks for fish canners and further limit these exempt periods to 10 hours a day or 50 hours a week; would eliminate "area of production"; and would set the minimum wage at 75 cents.

(3) H. R. 4272 would provide 14 unlimited workweeks and 14 workweeks overtime exemption limited to 10 hours a day or 50 hours a week for fruit and vegetable canners and a total

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N.C.A. Buildings Fund

Contributions and pledges to the N.C.A. Buildings program on the part of 87 firms in the canning machinery and supplies field totaled $624,792.04 on August 5, 1949. The firms which have made contributions and pledges are listed on page 270.

Senate Wage-Hour Action

Although the Senate now is scheduled to confine its wage-hour consideration to a proposal to raise the minimum wage, this program may be altered overnight.

Senate consideration of S. 653 and Committee amendments has been further delayed by debate on appropriations bills, and should the House act first on wage-hour—as now appears likely, the Senate may disregard S. 653 and take up whatever comprehensive wage-hour revision may be passed by the House.

Price Support Program

An Aiken Act-Brannan plan compromise farm bill being prepared by the Anderson subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Agriculture would authorize production payments to producers of non-storable perishables—including fruits and vegetables—who are under appropriate marketing orders.

A bill embodying such provisions has been printed for the exclusive use of the subcommittee, but is said to contain:

(1) Authorization for the Secretary of Agriculture to pay producers of non-storable perishables in cash the amount by which the estimated average price to all producers of each commodity is less than the level of price

CONGRESS

support, which would be determined by the Secretary.

(2) A proviso that the Secretary may require as a condition to undertaking a price support operation for any commodity, that appropriate marketing orders under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 be in effect.

This would grant the Secretary broad discretionary power in interpreting the intent of Congress, as to the level of price support, which growers should receive payments, and what crops will be supported.

Secretary Brannan's proposal to extend the marketing orders law to all fruits and vegetables, as embodied in S. 2283, is not being considered, it is reported.

Insect Control

The Senate and House on August 3 passed and sent to the President, H. J. Res. 327, appropriating $1,750,000 to the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, USDA, for control of emergency outbreaks of insects and plant diseases, particularly grasshoppers.

Delivered Pricing

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ence. He is one of a group of opponents to the bill, including Senator Kefauver (Tenn.), Morse (Ore.), Pepper (Fla.) and Maybank (S. C.), who are expected to seek Senate approval of the bill as amended by the House.

Wage-Hour

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exemption from both wages and hours for fish canners; would retain the "area of production"; and would establish a minimum wage of 65 cents to be adjusted annually so as to reflect the cost of living.

Although the parliamentary procedure will be for the House to consider H. R. 3190, Chairman Lesinski is expected to move that the language of H. R. 5856 be substituted. H. R. 4272 then would be offered by its author, Representative Lucas (Tex.), as a substitute to the substitute, and the vote on the choice of the two measures would be one of the crucial roll calls of wage-hour action.

Under both H. R. 3190 and H. R. 5856, the canning industry would be granted exemptions from overtime only "if such industry is found by the Secretary of Labor to be characterized by marked annually recurring seasonal peaks of operation." With respect to fruit and vegetable canning, six of the possible 20 weeks of exemption might be obtained, either in whole or in part, only after the Secretary makes a determination that they are necessary "to prevent the spoilage of such perishable fruits and vegetables."

The new compromise bill, H. R. 5856, was drafted during the week by Administration Democrats headed by Representative Combs (Tex.).

PUBLICATION

Improper Packaging

Estimated losses of United States exports due to inadequate or improper packaging of goods for foreign shipment may total as much as a billion dollars, according to the Office of International Trade, U. S. Department of Commerce. Details are contained in "Digest of International Developments—Containers," Part 18, No. 6, Vol. VII of the *World Trade in Commodities* series. Copies are available from the GPO for 5 cents each.

Non-Canner Contributors to N.C.A. Buildings Fund

Following is a list of the 87 firms who thus far have generously advanced the program to modernize the research facilities of the Association:

Box Manufacturers—$28,606.04.

California Container Corporation
Container Corporation of America
Fibreboard Products, Inc.
Gaylord Container Corporation
Inland Container Corporation
Kieckhefer Container Company
F. J. Kress Box Company
Planters Manufacturing Co.
Union Bag & Paper Corporation

Container and Closer Manufacturers —$395,000.

American Can Company
Armstrong Cork Company
Ball Brothers Company
Continental Can Company
Crown Can Company
Crown Cork and Seal Company
Hazel-Atlas Glass Company
Heekin Can Company
Latchford-Marble Glass Co.
Owens-Illinois Glass Company
Tygart Valley Glass Company
The White Cap Company

Label Manufacturers—$22,600.

G. A. Ackermann Printing Co., Inc.
The Calvert Lithographing Co.
Commercial Printers, Inc.
H. S. Crocker Co., Inc.
Forbes Lithograph Co.
Gamse Lithographing Co., Inc.
Hammer Lithographing Corp.
International Playing Card & Label Co., Inc.
F. H. Langsenkamp Company
Michigan Lithographing Co.
Muirson Label Co., Inc.
Multi-Colortype Co.
The Nevins-Church Press
Piedmont Label Co., Inc.
Ridgeway Lithograph Co.
Rossotti Lithographing Co., Inc.
Schmidt Lithograph Company
Simpson & Doeller Company
Stecher-Traung Lithograph Corp.
U. S. Printing & Lithograph Co.
Wilmanns Lithographing Co.

Machinery Manufacturers—$34,980.

Atlas Pacific Engineering Co.
Barry-Wehmiller Machinery Co.
Burt Machine Company
Chisholm-Ryder Company, Inc.
J. L. Ferguson Company
Food Machinery & Chemical Corp.
Frank Hamachek Machine Co.
Horix Manufacturing Company
Lee Metal Products Co., Inc.
A. K. Robins & Co., Inc.
Scott Viner Company
Sinclair-Scott Company
Tri-Clover Machine Co.
U. S. Bottlers Machinery Co.
Urschel Laboratories, Inc.
Waukesha Foundry Company

Steel Companies—$105,000.

Bethlehem Steel Corp.
Carnegie-Illinois Steel Co. (U. S. Steel)
Granite City Steel Co.
Inland Steel Co.
Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp.
National Steel Corp. (Weirton)
Republic Steel Corp.
Tennessee Coal, Iron & Railroad Co. (U. S. Steel)
Wheeling Steel Corp.
The Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co.

Sugar Suppliers—$25,500.

California & Hawaiian Sugar Co.
Corn Products Refining Co.
Savannah Sugar Refining Corp.
Spreckles Sugar Co.

Miscellaneous Suppliers—$13,106.

Associated Seed Growers, Inc.
The Canning Trade
Corneli Seed Company
Dewey & Almy Chemical Co.
The Diversey Corporation
Gallatin Valley Seed Company
Lawrence Warehouse Company
Northrup, King & Co. (Garden Seed Division)
Rogers Brothers Seed Co., Inc.
Wm. J. Stange Company
Taylor Instrument Companies
Vance Publishing Co.
Wallace & Tiernan Co., Inc.
Lansing B. Warner, Inc.

RAW PRODUCTS

Pear and Apple Purchases

Purchase of 150 cars of Bartlett pears and 50 cars of Gravenstein apples was scheduled to be made this week by the Production and Marketing Administration, USDA. The pears are U. S. Grade No. 1 and are in California.

Price Supports for Turkeys

A program for the support of producer prices of live turkeys at a national average price of about 31 cents a pound, for the period August 1 through December 31, 1949, was announced July 22 by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

"USDA will purchase box-packed frozen dressed young turkeys in carlot quantities of Grade A and B only from producers, producers' agents, cooperative organizations, or processing firms," an announcement stated. Purchases will be made "on an offer-and-acceptance basis at announced prices intended to reflect a national average live weight price to producers of about 31 cents a pound." In addition, during July, 1950, USDA will purchase frozen dressed turkeys in storage which were purchased from producers in 1949.

"The program is being announced to encourage orderly marketing of the increased production expected this year as compared with output in 1948," USDA said.

1950 Agricultural Conservation Program Announced by USDA

The 1950 Agricultural Conservation Program, for which Congress has appropriated $285 millions, puts increased emphasis on conservation use of all farmland, it was announced July 28 by the Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

"Agricultural Conservation Program practices for 1950 will stress protecting soil from wind and water erosion, restoring and maintaining soil productivity, restoring and maintaining sustained yields on range and permanent pasture, conserving and obtaining efficient use of water for agriculture, and establishing, restoring and maintaining farm woodland at high levels of sustained yields," a USDA announcement said.

"Assistance is in the form of materials such as lime, fertilizers and seed; services such as the use of power machinery in dirt moving practices; and reimbursement payments on conservation practices carried out under program specifications," according to USDA. "The assistance available averages less than 50 percent of the total 'out-of-pocket' costs of approved practices, the farmer paying the rest of the cost."

Thus, under the Program, farmers will be able to select practices which will help most in attaining their conservation objectives.

Major provisions of the 1950 Program are based on recommendations of farmers and their local committeemen, state PMA committeemen, soil and crop specialists of Federal experiment stations, land-grant colleges, other USDA agencies, and state departments of agriculture.

A national conservation practice outline for 1950 will go to all states soon, and states and counties will select the practices which need local emphasis, USDA said.

LABOR

Agreement on Use of Mexicans For Farm Labor Work Signed

The United States and Mexico formally agreed this week on the terms of an agreement for the use of Mexican nationals as farm workers. Along with the basic agreement, an individual work contract was approved by the two countries. The agreement provides that Mexicans who are illegally in the United States may be employed only under contract.

The United States Employment Service and the Immigration and Naturalization Service will establish recruitment points along the U. S. side of the border for the purpose of contracting and thus legalizing the "wetbacks" now in the United States. Recruitment points being considered are McAllen, Brownsville, and El Paso, Tex.; Nogales or Tucson, Ariz.; and Calexico, Calif.

The use of Mexican nationals in the past has required certification by the state and federal employment services and the approval and giving of a bond to the U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Copies of the International Agreement and the individual work contract may be obtained from the United States Employment Service or from N.C.A.

A USES report on farm placement activities for the quarter ended June 30 stated that a majority of the states reporting on July 1 indicated no shortages in agricultural labor. An exception was noted in California, where experienced fruit pickers are needed. "Elsewhere," USES reported, "shortages were scattered and of brief duration."

Of the 12,000-plus certifications made for Canadian workers as of July 1, it is anticipated that a ceiling of 5,000 will be established for the Aroostook, Me., potato harvest, the USES said.

From the first of the year to July 1, certifications had been made for the following Puerto Rican and foreign workers, according to USES:

Puerto Ricans	5,707
British West Indians	10,336
Canadians	12,021
Mexicans	9,867

Canning Wage Structure

A bulletin describing the wage structure of the canning and preserving industry has been issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor. The report contains statistics on hourly and weekly earnings and minimum entrance rates, as to permanent and part-time employees and between men and women. Copies of the report, *Wage Structure — Canning, 1948*, Series 2, No. 72, are available from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington 25, D. C.

Western Canner and Packer 1949 Yearbook Number

The 1949 yearbook number of *Western Canner and Packer*, 121 Second Street, San Francisco 5, Calif., has been issued, and additional copies are available at $2.00 each.

The yearbook contains statistics on production and distribution of canned fruits, vegetables, juices and general-line foods; dried fruits, vegetables and general-line foods; frozen fruits, vegetables, juices and general-line foods; glassed foods; nuts; brined fruits.

It also provides reviews of the 1948 food-processing seasons, a directory of food equipment, supplies and services, and other special articles and features.

PROCUREMENT

Canned Peaches for PMA

Intentions to buy up to 1,000,000 cases of canned peaches, clings or freestones, in No. 10 or No. 2½ cans, special pack preferred, were announced August 4 by the Fruit and Vegetable Branch, Production and Marketing Administration, USDA. The canned peaches are for the National School Lunch Program. Interested canners who do not receive offer forms may obtain them from PMA. Bids are due by August 15.

Invitations for Bids

✪ Quartermaster Purchasing Offices—111 East 16th Street, New York 3, N. Y.; 1819 West Pershing Road, Chicago 9, Ill.; Oakland Army Base, Oakland 14, Calif. (Western Branch).

Veterans Administration—Procurement Division, Veterans Administration Building, Washington 25, D. C.

The Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act will apply to all operations performed after the date of notice of award if the total value of a contract is $10,000 or over.

The QMC has invited sealed bids to furnish the following:

CANNED RSP CHERRIES (Standard)—70,620 dozen No. 10 or 382,830 dozen No. 2 cans, f.o.b. destination. Bids due at Chicago under Bid No. QM-11-183-50-62 by Aug. 17.

CANNED SNAP BEANS (Extra Standard)—13,760 dozen No. 10 and 42,104 dozen No. 2 cans, f.o.b. origin. Bids due at Chicago under Bid No. QM-11-183-50-57 by Aug. 24.

PREPARED COCONUT—71,136 No. 8 cans (404 x 414), f.o.b. origin. Bids due at Chicago under Bid No. QM-11-183-50-54 by Aug. 29.

CANNED CORN (Extra Standard)—10,289 dozen No. 10 and 93,002 dozen No. 2 cans, f.o.b. origin. Bids due at Chicago under Bid No. QM-11-183-50-58 by Sept. 7.

CANNED CORN (Extra Standard)—137,144 dozen No. 10 and 83,000 dozen No. 2 cans, f.o.b. destination. Bids due at Chicago under Bid No. QM-11-183-50-65 by Sept. 7.

FRUIT JAMS—Quantities of No. 10 and No. 2 cans of various fruit jams, f.o.b. origin. Bids due at New York under Bid No. QM-30-280-50-49 by Sept. 12.

PUBLICITY

McCall's Magazine

The July issue of *McCall's Magazine* made use of canned foods in two articles.

Entitled "Summer is the time for marvelous cold soups," the first article was divided by its author, Miss Frances T. Edens, into two parts, with recipes of soups starting from scratch and recipes using canned foods. Each of five recipes under the sub-title "Make them from Cans" features canned soup.

The second article calling for the use of canned food is entitled "4 ways to enjoy fruit cocktail more." Attention is brought to the article by its opening sentence: "Look at the good things you can make from cans of this bright, delicious fruit." Four recipes show an interesting variety of uses for fruit cocktail.

Better Homes and Gardens

Canned baked beans were featured in a one-page spread in the July issue of *Better Homes and Gardens*. The article entitled "So-Good Baked Beans" cites the advantage of using canned baked beans by saying, "You'll save time with canned baked beans. And the tempting blend of flavors can rival even that in the old brown bean pot."

Three striking black-and-white photographs illustrate tempting main course recipes that can be prepared with but little work in the home kitchen. Recipes are given for savory baked beans, sausage pie supper, and baked bean casserole.

MEETING

Illinois Canners Association

The fall meeting of the Illinois Canners Association will be held at the Bismarck Hotel, Chicago, December 5-6, it has been announced by W. D. Jones, secretary.

DEATH

Calvin S. White

Calvin S. White, 38, director of public relations for the Hawaiian Pineapple Co., Ltd., died recently in Hawaii following an illness of several months. Mr. White had been in newspaper and public relations work in Alaska and Shanghai prior to joining the pineapple company in May, 1943.

FOREIGN TRADE

World Meat Production

New figures on the world meat and livestock situation issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations are compared to those of last year and prewar years to show that the world's meat production in 1948 was slightly less than in 1947 and considerably less than the 1934-38 annual average.

North America's meat production in 1948 was reported by FAO at 135 percent of the average for prewar years. During the year the United States reverted to its prewar status as a net importer of meat. The world output of meat is expected to increase generally during the next two or three years, with the major increases occurring in Europe, FAO said.

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